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DRIFFIELD
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report
of the
Medical Officer of Health
for the year 1915.

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DRIFFIELD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S
ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1915.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Driffield Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have now to present to you my Annual
Report for 1915.

In commencing I may state that the Rates and Averages in the Report are based upon a total Population of 11,453, the figure sent to me from the Registrar General, through the County Medical Officer of Health.

This means that, owing to the War, a deduction of about 5.75 per cent has been made from the Population, as estimated to the middle of 1915.

The Birth Rate is considerably higher; being 24.454, as against an average of 21.50 for the year 1911 - 1914 inclusive. For England and Wales less the 244 towns it is 20.7. Against this may be set the increase in the number of deaths among children under one year of age, amounting to just under 25 per cent on last year's figures; or to 75 per 1000 nett births as against 60.72 in 1914.

The Death Rate has risen from a previous 4 year's average of 13.071 crude to 13.9736 crude, or 11.922 standardised:- in England and Wales, less 244 towns it was 14.8 crude, or 13.6 standardised.

Epidemic Diseases totalled less than half the number notified in 1914:- this is accounted for by 127 cases of Measles as against 365 :- the other infectious diseases were as 54 to 53 in 1914.

No case of enteric fever was notified in the District, and there was no Epidemic Diarrhoea.

There were 17 cases of Tuberculosis, with 8 deaths, as compared with 12 cases and 8 deaths in 1914.

17 persons died from Cancer, as compared with 20 in 1914.

Measles and German Measles became compulsorily notifiable as from January 1. 1916, in England and Wales.

In view of the present circumstances the Local Government Board consider that many of the details usually inserted in the Annual Report, such as a description of the District, and of the water supply, sewerage and sewage disposal &c. may be omitted, and that the Report may be confined to a record of what has taken place during the year.

For this reason the Report will be curtailed as suggested.

POPULATION.

The surplus of Births over Deaths in 1914 was 120, and taking the Registrar General's figures of the estimated population viz:- 11453 we may apportion them to the various Sub-districts as follows:- Driffield 2833, Bainton 3224, Foston 2132, Langtoft 3264, Total 11453.

PAUPERISM.

The number of paupers from the Parishes in the Rural District, relieved during the year ending Dec. 31. 1915, was:-

Out of Door	183
Workhouse or other Institutions				35
Lunatics in Asylums		30
Boarded-Out Children and Non-Resident Paupers	...			15
				263
				=====

As against a total of 333 for 1914. There was a decrease of 68 in the Workhouse and Out-of-Door Paupers relieved.

BIRTH RATE.

Notification of Births became compulsory throughout the Kingdom on and after September 1st 1915. This notice has to be sent to the Medical Officer of Health of the district within 36 hours after the birth, by any person in attendance upon the mother at the time of, or within 6 hours after, the birth, whether the child is alive or dead, so long as it is born after the completion of the 28th week of pregnancy.

A Register has been kept of all Births notified to me since September 1st 1915.

During 1915 the births of 278 children were registered in the District, and there were 2 transferable births as well, making 280 in all.

The Birth Rate for the whole district was 24.454, the highest since 1910. There were 148 boys born to 132 girls.

Births in the four Sub-Districts.

	Population	Legit.	Illegit.	Total	Rate
Drifffield	2833	62	2	64	22.59
Bainton	3224	66	5	71	22.02
Foston	2132	61	3	64	30.01
Langtoft	3264	64	17	81	24.81
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	11453	253	27	280	24.8575

The Birth Rate for England and Wales exclusive of 244 towns was 20.7

The total number of illegitimate children born in the District was 26, 15 boys and 11 girls, and to these must be added 1 girl transferred from outside, making 27 in all, i.e. to say that *9.64* *were illegitimate* *taking those actually* per cent of all the children born in the District, and excluding transferable, we have (in the Sub-Districts)

Drifffield - 2 (2 girls) i.e. 7.7 of the total
Bainton - 4 (2 boys and 2 girls) i.e. 15.4 of the total
Foston - 3 (1 boy and 2 girls) i.e. 11.54 of the total
Langtoft - 17 (12 boys and 5 girls) i.e. 64.4 of the total.

So that the number of these births still goes on increasing in Langtoft S.D. (in 1914 it was 13); has decreased in Drifffield, and is about the same in Bainton and Foston.

MORTALITY.

The total number of deaths registered in 1915, as dying in the district was 143, and to these 21 must be added, as belonging to the district, but having died outside, and 4 deaths of non-residents must be subtracted, thus making a nett total of 160 deaths belonging to the district.

The Death Rate was 12.489 for those dying in the district, and 13.973 for the whole number, as compared with 10.53 and 11.85 in 1914.

The corrected rate is 11.92 as against 13.6 for England and Wales, less the 244 towns.

The average age at death was 51.06, or excluding infants 62.82 and 2 persons lived to 91 years.

There were 19 deaths in February, and 8 each in June and July.

There were 16 Inquests held. In 11 of these death ~~was~~ was returned as due to natural causes, 4 to accidents and 1 to suicide.

Deaths were caused by the following diseases in 1915:-

	No.	Rate in				
		1915	1914	1913	1912	1911
Whooping Cough	2	.174	.082	.164	.46	.49
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	7	.611	.493	.494	.49	.66
Other Tuber. Diseases	1	.087	.164	.164	.46	.41
Cancer	17	1.484	1.64	1.07	.902	1.48
Heart Disease	21	1.833	.905	1.07	1.38	.907
Bronchitis	7	.611	.576	.906	.574	.99
Pneumonia	6	.524	.576	.576	.82	.825
Diarrhaea & Enteritis	4	.349	.082	.329	.164	.495
Congenital Debility & Premature Birth	9	.786	.576	.906	.152	No stat.

There have been more than double the deaths from Heart Disease than there were in 1914; an equal number from Tuberculosis, and rather less from Cancer.

The first of the year was a very successful one for the
company. The sales were up to the mark and the
profits were also good. The management was very
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The rate is higher than last year viz: 75 as against 60.7 but this is considerably less than the rate for the whole country which is 98. (England and Wales less the 244 towns).

There were 21 deaths in all, as against 15 in 1914, and of these 14 were of legitimate and 7 of illegitimate children.

8 of these were due to Premature Birth, Malformation or Debility at Birth.

2 to Whooping Cough.

3 to Pneumonia.

4 to Enteritis and Diarrhaea.

1 to Convulsions.

1 to other causes. and there were 2 Inquests, in which a verdict of Natural Causes was returned.

Out of 26 illegitimate children born 7 died, i.e. about 27 per cent, or more exactly 269 per 1000; this is a great increase on last year's figures, amounting to over 150 per cent more.

Of the 17 illegitimate births in the Langtoft Sub-District, 4 died and of the 9 in the other Sub-districts 3 died, one in each of the districts.

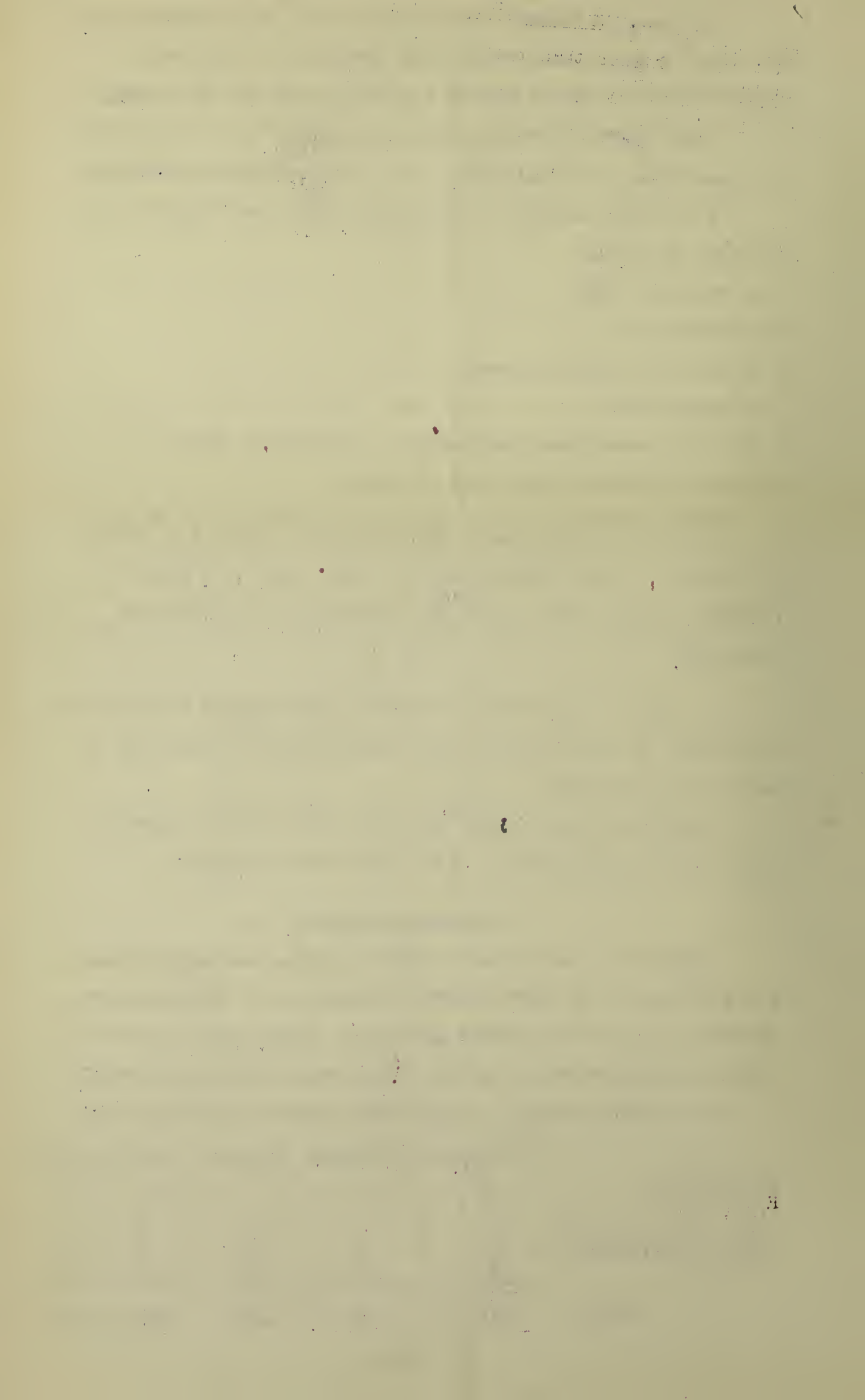
Therefore about 153 died for every 200 born as compared with 1 in 9 in 1914, which is an appreciable increase.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There were 181 cases notified in 1915, as compared with 418 in 1914, 50 in 1913, and 98 in 1912, and if from these we subtract 127 cases of Measles we get 54 cases, which is less than an annual average, for the remaining infectious diseases.

Table giving number of Infectious cases notified in 1915.

	Rural District.	Driffield.	Bainton.	Foston.	Langtoft.
Diphtheria	9	6	1		2
Scarlet Fever	26	1		13	12
Erysipelas	2			2	
Pulmy. Tuberculosis	11		4	5	2
Other Tuberculosis	6	4		1	1
Measles	127	60	20	2	45
Totals	181	71	25	23	62



NOTE:- By a Local Government Board order Measles and German Measles were made compulsory^{il} notifiable throughout England and Wales as from January 1st. 1916. Your Council had anticipated this on May 17th 1913, since which date, although there have been 496 cases notified, there has been no death from this disease; due partly no doubt to greater care being taken of the children.

There was no case of Enteric Fever notified in the District during the year; but a child living at Tibthorpe went for a holiday in the Autumn to Kirby Misperton in the Pickering Rural District, sickened with Enteric, and died. Careful enquiries made by the County Medical Officer and myself at Tibthorpe, and by Dr. Scott the Medical Officer of Health for the Pickering Rural District failed to discover the origin of the disease in this case.

8 Deaths were due to these notifiable diseases in the Rural District, viz:- 7 to Tuberculosis and 1 to Diphtheria (a child of 7 at Sledmere).

Schools were closed, at Nafferton for a fortnight in February on account of Mumps, and at Luttons Ambo in July on account of Measles.

The death rate from Notifiable disease was about 56 per 1000 deaths, or nearly the same (54.7) as last year, and nearly all from Tubercular disease. (It must be borne in mind that the present decrease of the population is owing to healthy individuals being taken away on account of the War; the residue remaining includes the old and weakly people, among whom there will be more deaths in proportion to the population - hence the increased general death rate.)

Table giving incidence of Notifiable Infectious Diseases in the whole and separate Sub-Districts, in 1915.

(See next page)



	Population.	No. of Cases	Rate per 1000
Whole District	11453	181	15.807
Drifffield S.-D.	2833	71	25.0609
Bainton S.-D.	3224	25	7.754
Foston S.-D.	2132	23	10.7871
Langtoft S.-D.	3264	62	18.9947

TUBERCULOSIS. (Pulmonary.)

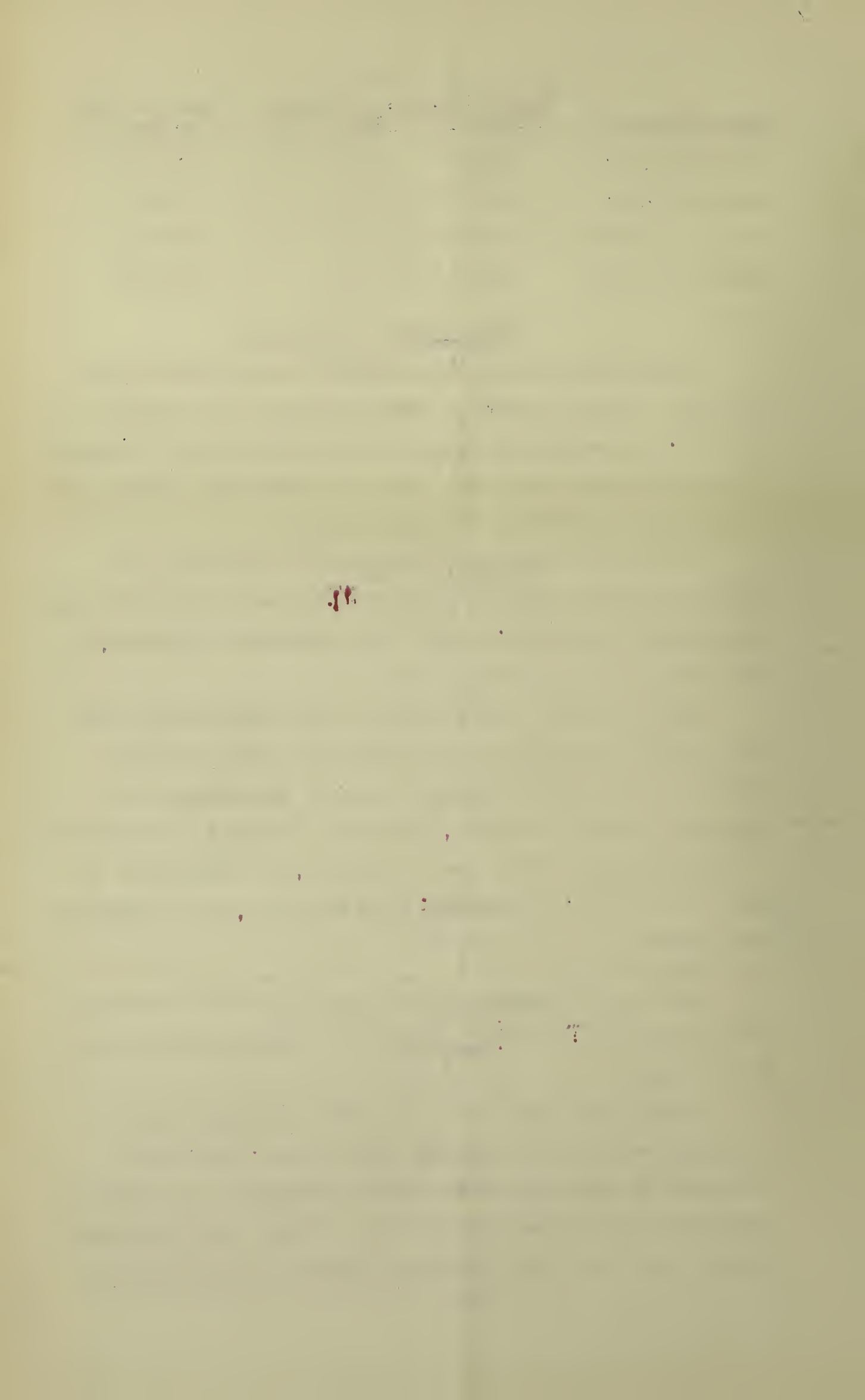
When a notification is received, printed instructions are sent, a visit is made, a separate bedroom is arranged, if possible; the patient is supplied with disinfectants, is ordered to keep the room dusted every day, and washed once a week, and is told how to deal with the expectoration.

In case of a death from Tuberculosis occurring, the Sanitary Inspector disinfects the ~~home~~^{house}, as soon as the body has been removed for burial; and the same procedure is adopted, if the patient goes to a Sanatorium.

Many notices of non-notifiable infectious diseases have been received from time to time during the year from Head Teachers of the various schools:- e.g. of Chicken Pox from Cranswick, Harpham, Foxholes, and Fimber; of Mumps from Nafferton; of Whooping Cough from Sledmere, Langtoft, and Middleton; of Itch from Beeford; of Ringworms from Nafferton, and of Impetigo from Kilham.

Two cases of Anthrax in cattle were reported in November and December but ~~a~~^{on} veterinary inspection, anthrax proved to be non-existent.

Another case occurred at Butterwick in April, and a journeyman butcher from Foxholes was infected; and, after treatment in the Scarborough Hospital, recovered. A special report on this case was sent by me to the Local Government Board; and also to your Sanitary Committee on May 27th 1915.



CLINICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL WORK.

56 specimens were sent for investigation to the Clinical Research Association in London. Of these 15 were for Tubercle, 32 for Diphtheria, 1 for Enteric and 8 of Suspected Water.

Of the Tubercle, 2 specimens (positive) referred to the same person, and, in the case of the Diphtheria specimens 56 and 3 respectively were taken from 2 persons.

The subjoined Table shows the results:-

	Total	Positive	Negative
Tubercle	15	4	11
Diphtheria	32	11	21
Enteric Fever	1	1
Water	<u>8</u>	- 2 bad - 2 doubtful - 4 satisfactory	
Total	56		

RAINFALL IN 1915.

The rainfall in 1915 has been 29.875 inches:÷ i.e. about 1.295 inches less than in 1914. There were 144 wet days, or 15 less than in 1914. July and December were the wettest months with 5.81 and 5.51 inches respectively: January and February had 3.06 and 3.69: June was the driest month, ^{with} only .3 inches of rainfall: and April with .84 and October 1.085 came next.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

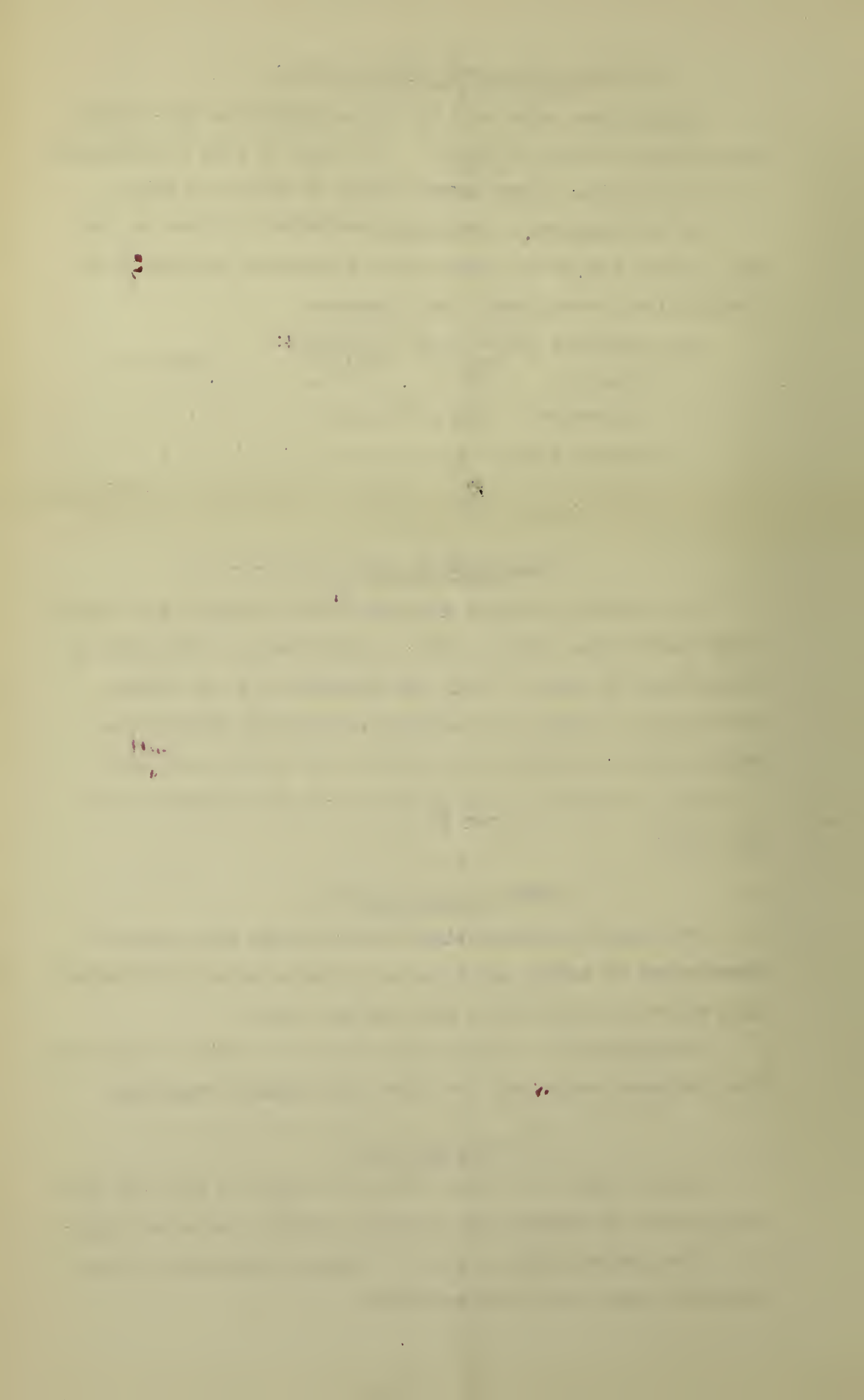
The sewage systems at Nafferton, Kilham and Middleton are working as usual; and the rest of the houses in Frodingham have now been connected up with the new sewer.

Nothing has at present been done with regard to repairing the Middleton sewers, but they have been flushed regularly.

HOUSING ACT 1909.

During 1915, 123 houses has been inspected and none were found unfit for human habitation; no closing orders were made.

The general defects were - ashpits too deep, privies requiring pans and defective paving.



Last year - 1914, 29 cottages were required in various villages: 2 have been built in Nafferton; and 9 additional ones, not included in the 29 have also been completed.

Tabular statement under Article v. of the
Housing Regulations of September 2. 1910.

No. of dwellinghouses inspected under the Act.	123
No. of dwellinghouses found unfit for human habitation-	none
Representations made to the Local Authority with a view to the making of Closing Orders... ..	<i>none</i>
No. of Closing Orders made	none
Dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied without the making of Closing Orders... ..	12
Dwellinghouses which, after making Closing Orders were put into a fit state for human habitation	none
Houses voluntarily closed by owners	none

GENERAL REMARKS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

A temporary Isolation Hospital, 8 beds, which will be available for cases from the Rural District is in process of construction in the Drifffield Urban District, and will be replaced by a permanent building after the War. The sewers, gas and water mains have been laid.

A report was received in January from the Engineer (Mr. Fairbank) on the Drainage and Water Supply of Middleton; and at a Special Meeting held on the 17th February 1915 it was decided not to proceed with the Engineer's scheme at present, but to ask Mr. Villiers of Beverley to bore the North End and Front Street Wells, and then to have the water from the bores analysed.

It has been impossible hitherto to clean out and bore the wells, on account of the height of water in the wells; but, as soon as this falls, it is hoped to proceed with the work.

A Local Government Board enquiry was held on April 21st at Foston-on-the-Wolds, with a view to providing a pure water supply for that place; the scheme was sanctioned in May,

tenders were invited, and the boreholes were completed, and the two pumps and casings had been fixed in position by October. The supply of water is ample, and as soon as some details relating to the surface drainage are finished, samples of the water will be sent for analysis.

It would be well if some system of scavenging were instituted at Middleton (and the larger Villages) before the hot weather comes.

The same recommendations apply to dairy cows as last year; and provision should be made for post-mortem examinations.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

Thos. Sanctuary, M.D.

Driffield,
February, 29th 1916.

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